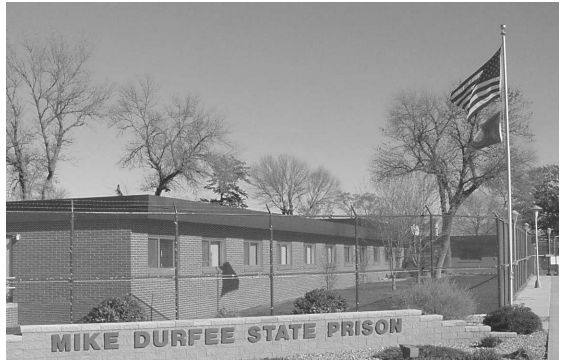


Mike Durfee State Prison Springfield, South Dakota

The Mike Durfee State Prison is located on the former campus of the University of South Dakota at Springfield (USD/S). The 1984 Legislature closed USD/S and authorized the Board of Charities and Corrections to establish the correctional facility. The Springfield State Prison opened in December 1984 when the female inmates from the Women's Correctional Facility in Yankton were transferred to the new institution in Springfield. Male inmates began transferring to the facility in January 1985.



Mike Durfee State Prison

The state's female inmate population was housed in Springfield until the opening of the South Dakota Women's Prison in Pierre in September of 1997.

On September 10, 1999 the prison was renamed in honor of Mike Durfee, Deputy Director of the South Dakota Department of Corrections. Durfee died of cancer in January 2000.

The Mike Durfee State Prison is under the direction of Warden Bob Dooley.

Facility

The design of the Durfee State Prison facility continues to provide a campus-type atmosphere. Buildings that once were college dormitories are now used to house inmates. Old classrooms are used for education classes and a former campus dining hall is still used to feed inmates and staff.



Exterior view of the Yankton Trusty Unit.

A minimum security unit known as the Yankton Trusty Unit is located in the Pierce Building on the grounds of the Human Services Center near Yankton, South Dakota. Another minimum security unit is located in Rapid City.

Assignments

Inmates housed at Springfield are selected from the population at the Penitentiary in Sioux Falls. Male inmates must have reached medium security status and have a good disciplinary and institutional record in order to transfer to Springfield. Male inmates cannot be sentenced directly to the Durfee State Prison.

Vocational Education

The Durfee State Prison emphasizes job skills and job-seeking skills in an effort to help each inmate return to society with a realistic potential to become responsible, self-reliant and taxpaying citizens. Inmates are expected to maintain a full schedule of vocational, academic and program classes, as well as an institutional job assignment. The facility maintains several vocational education programs such as Construction Technology, Auto Body, Landscape/Horticulture, Machine Tool and Welding.

Work Assignments

The Department of Agriculture, Forestry Division, utilizes inmate labor to build and renovate surplus vehicles for distribution across the state. The Department of Education and Cultural Affairs has staffed several positions at the prison since 1985. Inmates working at this site copy newspapers and other county and state records on microfilm for the state archives.

The construction vocational program under the Housing Development Authority is devoted to the building of houses for the Governor's Affordable Senior Housing Program.

The Building Maintenance program is using inmates assigned to this site to construct facilities, cabins and boat docks for the Game Fish and Parks Department. They also do cabinetry for area school districts and various projects at the prison.

Inmates, under staff supervision, provide the bulk of services for the institution including the maintenance and repair of buildings, vehicles and grounds, food preparation and service and clerical assistance.

Programs

Inmates are offered literacy, Adult Basic Education and General Educational Development (GED) classes. Treatment is offered for chemical dependency and for sex offenders.

Statistics

Population as of January 31, 2005

Mike Durfee State Prison	884
Yankton Trusty Unit	272